In the Claims:

1-11. Cancelled.

12. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

receiving information about a first order, in which the information includes:

at least one parameter of the first order;

an identity of a market center to which the first order is to be routed; and

an indication that the market center charges a transaction cost for orders that are processed after a length of time;

assigning a time threshold to the first order, in which the time threshold comprises the length of time of the market center less a pre-determined amount of time;

determining that the first order has not been processed before the time threshold; transmitting an instruction to cancel the first order;

generating a second order, in which the second order comprises the at least one parameter of the first order; and

routing the second order to the market center.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 further comprising:

calculating the time threshold of the first order.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 further comprising:

monitoring a status of the first order to determine whether the first order has been

processed by the market center.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, in which the act of monitoring

comprises:

using a timer to measure a length of time that the first order is active within the

market center; and

receiving an indication that the length of time that the first order is active within the

market center equals the time threshold.

16. Cancelled.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, in which the timer begins measuring

as soon as the first order is routed to the market center.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, in which the act of monitoring is

performed by a timer.

19-20. Cancelled.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, in which the status of the first order

comprises one of:

a pending state;

a filled state;

a cancelled state; and

a terminated state.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 further comprising:

assigning an external identifier to the first order;

assigning an internal identifier to the first order.

23-33. Cancelled.

34.   (Previously Presented) An apparatus of comprising:

    a processor; and

    a memory, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 12.

35.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 34, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 13.

36.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 34, in which the memory stores

instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the

method of claim 14.

37.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 36, in which the memory stores

instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the

method of claim 15.

38.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 37, in which the memory stores

instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the

method of claim 17.

39.   (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 36, in which the memory stores

instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the

method of claim ~~15~~ 18.

40.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 34, in which the memory stores

instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the

method of claim 21.

41.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 34, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 22.

42.   (Previously Presented) An article of manufacture comprising:

a storage medium, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by a processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 12.

43.   (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 42, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 13.

44.   (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 42, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 14.

45.   (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 44, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 15.

46.   (Previously Presented) The article of manufacture of claim 45, in which the storage medium stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 17.

47.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 44, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 18.

48.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 42, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 21.

49.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 42, in which the memory stores instructions which, when executed by the processor, direct the processor to perform the method of claim 22.